

Vegetation MOU Group
June 18, 2003
Meeting Notes

Postponed topics are Anderson classification and update on mapping crosswalk tables

Comments on Central Coast mapping proposal

Several group members provided edits on the current proposal. No other major concerns were raised.

Funding options for Central Coast proposal

DFG interested in mapping Sierra Foothills and Delta regions, rather than Central Coast. They may have interest in a smaller focus effort on San Luis Obispo county, though. CDF just finished mapping Sierra Foothills and Delta regions, however, leading to a sense of frustration in lack of coordination. Marc and Todd will do some followup to improve future coordination. USFS/CDF have some flexibility in their scheduling, depending on fund availability. It may be possible to still use the situation to test the standards by getting DFG to do fine-scale mapping over the medium-scale product recently produced.

Monterey county still showing positive interest in discussions with Julie Evens, with willingness to share 1:15,840 true color air photos from Summer 2000. Coastal Commission may have funding for Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo mapping. Central Coast Joint Data Committee may have data and imagery to share. BLM is working on rare plant grant in San Benito County and may be able to include additional funding for vegetation mapping. We still need to pursue Section 6 possible funding from USFWS.

Future roles for Group

The Vegetation MOU group is close to completing it's major initial focus of mapping and classification standards. Until funding becomes available for Central Coast project, requiring continued interagency coordination, the group examined it's other potential roles.

The group identified two key roles that still need to continue: sharing of information among agencies and promoting use of the standards and mechanisms for land cover mapping. Even if the funding for the test project does not come through, the group wants to continue meeting for these two roles. The information sharing could be a quarterly, 1-hour meeting allowing each agency to describe their recent and planned activities related to land cover mapping and classification. This is particularly important in coordinating the scheduling of mapping efforts among agencies, such as BOR, USFS, CDF, and DFG. The

promoting of standards and mechanisms requires the group to develop an outreach strategy. A small group of Mark Rosenberg, Marc Hoshovsky, Brian Schwind, Julie Evens, Jeff Kennedy, and Todd Keeler-Wolf will meet in early August to draft up such a strategy.

Next meeting – September 9, 9-noon, FRAP conference room

Draft Agenda:

- Update on mapping rules crosswalk – Keeler-Wolf
- Land use business needs – Barbara Simpson
- Proposed riparian mapping effort – Ann Chrisney
- Status on wetlands mapping effort – Chris Potter?
- Update on funding of mapping project
- Promoting use of standards – update on strategy development
- Seeking advice on classifying retired agricultural lands – Molly Penberth